

REDISCOVERY OF *STYLISMA HUMISTRATA*
(CONVOLVULACEAE) IN TENNESSEE

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Recent field work has uncovered a native species, *Stylisma humistrata* (Walter) Chapman, that has remained undetected in Tennessee for more than a century. Previously, its presence in Tennessee was known from only one collection ('Lookout Mt., Tenn.', Hamilton County) made by George Vasey in 1878. Our collection is from west Tennessee, approximately 200 miles west of Vasey's original collection site. There has been no attempt as yet to relocate this species in the vicinity of Lookout Mountain.

Vasey's collections of *Stylisma humistrata* were deposited in herbaria outside Tennessee and, until the revision of *Stylisma* (Myint, 1966), had remained unknown to Tennessee botanists. We examined one specimen that was originally deposited in the Princeton University Herbarium and later transferred to the New York Botanical Garden in 1945. According to Myint, a duplicate of the same collection was seen by him at the Philadelphia Academy of Science. However, a search of *Stylisma* material at the Philadelphia Academy of Science did not reveal its presence. It is interesting to note that even though Augustin Gattinger spent about 15 years botanizing in southeastern Tennessee (Oakes, 1932), he apparently did not collect this species nor did he hear of Vasey's collections (Gattinger, 1901). In the most recent state checklist (Sharp et al., 1960), this species continued to be unrecognized as a member of the flora of Tennessee.

Of the eight taxa currently recognized in *Stylisma* (Myint, 1966), *S. humistrata* has the widest distribution. Its range extends from coastal Virginia to northern Florida and west to eastern Texas. It appears that the southern border of Tennessee (35° N lat.) approximates its northernmost limits in the Mississippi River Valley. In fact, our collection site is less than one mile from the Mississippi border. Interestingly, Smith (1978) also gives the northernmost distribution for this species in Arkansas at approximately the same latitude.

The recent collection of *Stylisma humistrata* reported here is from west Tennessee, an area we are currently studying. The collection data are: Tennessee, McNairy Co., deep sand areas along the

Tuscumbia River, at dirt road crossing about 1.0 mi E of its confluence with the Hatchie River, *V. Bates & P. Lewis 5189*, 13 August 1983. Voucher specimens have been deposited at APSC, GH, MEM, TENN, and VDB.

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